



## *2011 Workplan*

*December 13, 2010*

### *Commission Workgroups*

The Commission's charge is substantial and multi-faceted, and workgroups with active leadership and participation from all Commission members will be required. State agencies will be expected to participate fully in workgroups, both through their agency's representatives on the Commission and by providing additional staff, program, and budget support where appropriate to supplement MDP's staff role under the statute.

#### *Funding Workgroup*

The Funding Workgroup will fulfill the Commission's charge to make recommendations on the adequacy, coordination, and implementation of funding mechanisms and other state assistance for planning activities and infrastructure and land preservation needs, consistent with the state economic growth, resource protection, and planning policy (the "**Twelve Visions**").

The Workgroup will develop a comprehensive assessment of the state's funding of programs and policies that encourage smart and sustainable growth. It is anticipated that the Workgroup may need to supplement members' expertise with third-party consultants and/or experts in the field.

#### *Concentrating Growth Workgroup*

The Concentrating Growth Workgroup will help fulfill the Commission's charge to recommend changes in state law, regulations, policies, and procedures to achieve the Twelve Visions, focusing on laws, regulations, policies, and procedures that encourage smart and sustainable growth by concentrating development in appropriate locations. The Workgroup will also identify laws, regulations, policies, and procedures which discourage or inhibit smart and sustainable growth.

At a minimum, the Workgroup will:

1. fulfill the Commission's charge to promote and make recommendations regarding efficient and predictable model state and local regulations to achieve the Twelve Visions by examining the state and local regulatory obstacles to smart, sustainable development, and make concrete recommendations for regulatory reform or relief -- "greentaping" -- that will encourage such development without compromising other important state policies
2. thoroughly review and assess the Task Force's Revitalization Incentives Workgroup January 2010 report *"Sustainable Maryland: Accelerating Investment in the Revitalization and Livability of Maryland's Neighborhoods"*, and develop strategies for implementation of the report's recommendations which are validated by the Workgroup
3. work with MDP and other state agencies on the development and refinement of the "GrowthPrint" tool, as well as the continued development of the existing "GreenPrint" and "AgPrint" tools
4. coordinate and oversee an assessment for the Commission of Tax Increment Financing (TIF), which was previously requested of the Task Force by members of the General Assembly

### Education Workgroup

The Education Workgroup will fulfill the Commission's charge to develop and assist in the implementation of educational and outreach programs about smart and sustainable growth.

The Workgroup will design a smart and sustainable growth education campaign to educate the public and, where appropriate, local officials about the growth and development challenges faced by Marylanders and the importance of addressing them proactively and constructively. It should first determine what existing efforts are already underway, and to what degree, so as not to duplicate existing efforts.

The Workgroup will build upon the Task Force's work, which included the following proposed elements:

- Assist MDP in its efforts to expand the opportunities for classroom settings for the existing Planning Commission and Board of Appeals education course.
- Contact organizations that offer continuing education opportunities for elected officials.
- Complete the inventory of existing training courses (free/paid).
- Determine most viable option for development of smart growth curriculum.
- Frame an overall smart growth marketing campaign.

The Workgroup will review and update the existing Smart Growth Teachers Resource guide within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Social Studies curriculum.

The Workgroup will also fulfill the Commission's charge to review periodically the educational requirements for members of Planning Boards and Commissions and Boards of Appeals, as required by Article 66B §§ 3.02 and 4.07, and evaluate compliance rates for the members.

### *PlanMaryland Workgroup*

The PlanMaryland Workgroup will help fulfill the Commission's charge to advise on the content of the State development plan, now being developed by MDP as PlanMaryland. Members of this Workgroup will remain in regular contact with MDP, serve as its initial sounding board on behalf of the Commission, and help organize and structure the full Commission's engagement with and review of the plan as it is developed.

### *WIP Workgroup*

The Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Workgroup will work with the state agencies responsible for production of the WIP, particularly on the growth component of the WIP and the structure of the proposed offsets included. Members of this Workgroup will remain in regular contact with MDE and other agencies, serve as their initial sounding board on behalf of the Commission, and help organize and structure the full Commission's engagement with and review of the WIP, particularly with respect to its impact on growth issues.

### *Indicators Workgroup*

The Indicators Workgroup will fulfill the Commission's charge to evaluate the continuing viability and effectiveness of the state and local government smart growth indicators contained in Article 66B §3.10 of the Code and make recommendations for amendments or additions to the indicators.

2009 legislation required the Task Force to make recommendations on additional measures and indicators, which were subsequently made to the Task Force and the General Assembly. As recommended and commenced by the Task Force, the Workgroup will pursue a process to "test" potential indicators which were identified.

**Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) Workgroup (ad hoc)**

The APFO Workgroup will be convened, as necessary, to fulfill the Commission's charge to review the reports of local jurisdictions on adequate public facilities development restrictions and assess whether and to what extent these effect the achievement of the goals of the ability of the local jurisdiction to achieve the goals of the Twelve Visions.

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